

Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 STATE 240356
ORIGIN SS-25

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SSO-00 /026 R

DRAFTED BY STR:AWWOLFF:SPM
APPROVED BY STR:AWWOLFF
STATE:BARRACLOUGH
S/S:R ERITO

-----078029 060240Z /12

O 060202Z OCT 77

FM SECSTATE WASHDC
TO AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS IMMEDIATE
INFO USMISSION GENEVA IMMEDIATE

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 240356

EXDIS - USEEC/USMTN FOR AMB MC DONALD ONLY

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: MTN

SUBJECT: STRAUSS/HAFERKAMP LETTER

FROM AMB. STRAUSS TO AMB. HINTON

1. PLEASE DELIVER FOLLOWING LETTER TO EC VICE
PRESIDENT HAFERKAMP. BEGIN TEXT:

DEAR WILLY:

I APPRECIATE YOUR LETTER AND THE GOOD WILL IT REPRESENTS.

I KNOW THAT I AM IMPATIENT. I AM GROWING OLDER AND THE
TIME THAT I HAVE, I PLAN TO USE PRODUCTIVELY. I AM ALSO
IMPATIENT FOR A SECOND LESS PERSONAL REASON. THE TIME IS
SHORT FOR US TO HOLD THESE NEGOTIATIONS TOGETHER. WE HAVE
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TO AVOID A BREAKDOWN DURING THESE THREE MONTHS THAT WOULD
SEND A SHOCK WAVE THROUGHOUT THE BUSINESS COMMUNITIES OF
EACH OF OUR COUNTRIES.

I AM ENCOURAGED BY THE FACT THAT I FIND EVERYWHERE AT THE
HIGHEST LEVELS OF GOVERNMENT A RECOGNITION THAT THE TRADING
SYSTEM IS EXCEEDINGLY FRAGILE, THAT UTMOST EFFORTS ARE

NEEDED TO PRESERVE IT.

WE HAVE A GREAT UNDERTAKING IN GENEVA. IT IS THE ONLY MAJOR NEGOTIATION THAT WE SHALL SEE IN THE TWENTY YEARS FOLLOWING THE KENNEDY ROUND. I HAVE TRIED TO BRIDGE EVERY GAP IN OUR POSITIONS AND I BELIEVE THAT YOU HAVE ACTED IN THE SAME SPIRIT.

NOW, THIS NEXT WEEK, WE MUST PROCEED TO OBTAIN THE COMMITMENT OF OTHER COUNTRIES TO THE ACCORD WE HAVE REACHED. IF THE WORK PROGRAM WE AGREED TO IS SEEN AS NO LONGER BEING FEASIBLE, THE WORLDWIDE SENSE OF OPPORTUNITY WILL BE LOST.

I CANNOT COMMIT THE UNITED STATES TO THESE NEGOTIATIONS INDEFINITELY. PLEASE BE ASSURED THAT THIS IS NOT FROM LACK OF GOOD WILL, BUT I WILL MAKE NO PROMISE UNLESS I FEEL THAT I CAN DELIVER ON IT. DAILY, THE NUMBER OF VISITORS REQUESTING PROTECTION FROM IMPORTS GROWS. THE PRESSURE FROM OUR CONGRESS IS INTENSE FOR THE PRESIDENT AND FOR ME. I WILL TRY TO HOLD THE UNITED STATES TO THE COURSE AS LONG AS I CAN, AS WILL THE PRESIDENT. BUT, OUR SUCCESS IN RESISTING THESE PRESSURES WILL DEPEND IN LARGE MEASURE ON WHETHER WE ARE ACTIVELY ENGAGED IN THE ACTUAL NEGOTIATING PHASE OF THE MULTILATERAL TRADE NEGOTIATIONS BY MID-JANUARY.

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I DO VERY MUCH APPRECIATE THE EFFORTS THAT YOU, YOUR FELLOW COMMISSIONERS AND ROY DENMAN ARE MAKING.

BEST REGARDS,

BOB

END TEXT. CHRISTOPHER

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NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: Z
Capture Date: 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: PUBLIC CORRESPONDENCE
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Sent Date: 06-Oct-1977 12:00:00 am
Decaption Date: 22 May 2009
Decaption Note: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 22 May 2009
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1977STATE240356
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: AWWOLFF:SPM
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
Film Number: D770364-0159
Format: TEL
From: STATE
Handling Restrictions:
Image Path:
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Legacy Key: link1977/newtext/t19771086/aaaacvpy.tel
Line Count: 103
Litigation Code IDs:
Litigation Codes:
Litigation History:
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Message ID: 337de634-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Office: ORIGIN SS
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: ONLY
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: ONLY
Reference: n/a
Retention: 0
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 14-Jan-2005 12:00:00 am
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 1008839
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: STRAUSS/HAFERKAMP LETTER FROM AMB. STRAUSS TO AMB. HINTON
TAGS: PGOV, MTN
To: BRUSSELS
Type: TE
vdkgvwkey: odb://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/337de634-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Review Markings:
Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
22 May 2009
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 22 May 2009